natural background pollutant levels, or (3) a finding that no further pollutant reductions were technologically available and economically practicable and achievable in light of best industry practice consistent with Part 6.2.1.2;

- Documentation to support any determination that pollutants of concern are not expected to be present above natural background levels if you discharge directly to impaired waters, and that such pollutants were not detected in your discharge or were solely attributable to natural background sources (see Part 6.2.4.2); and
- Documentation to support your claim that your facility has changed its status from active to inactive and unstaffed with respect to the requirements to conduct routine facility inspections (see Part 4.1.3), quarterly visual assessments (see Part 4.2.3), and/or benchmark monitoring (see Part 6.2.1.3).

6. Monitoring.

You shall collect and analyze storm water samples and document monitoring activities consistent with the procedures described in Part 6 and Appendix B, Subsections 10 – 12 and any additional sector-specific requirements in Part 8. Refer to Part 7 for reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

6.1 Monitoring Procedures

6.1.1 Monitored Outfalls.

Applicable monitoring requirements apply to each outfall authorized by this permit, except as otherwise exempt from monitoring as a "substantially identical outfall." For monitoring purposes, an outfall can include a discrete conveyance (i.e., pipe, ditch, channel, tunnel or conduit) or a location where sheet flow leaves your facility's property. If your facility has two or more outfalls that you believe discharge substantially identical effluents, based on the similarities of the general industrial activities and control measures, exposed materials that may significantly contribute pollutants to storm water, and runoff coefficients of their drainage areas, you may monitor the effluent of just one of the outfalls and report that the results also apply to the substantially identical outfall(s). As required in Part 5.1.5.2, your SWPPP shall identify each outfall authorized by this permit and describe the rationale for any substantially identical outfall determinations. The allowance for monitoring only one of the substantially identical outfalls is not applicable to any outfalls with numeric effluent limitations. You are required to monitor each outfall covered by a numeric effluent limit as identified in Part 6.2.2.

6.1.2 Commingled Discharges.

If discharges authorized by this permit commingle with discharges not authorized under this permit, any required sampling of the authorized discharges shall be performed at a point before they mix with other waste streams, to the extent practicable.

6.1.3 Measurable Storm Events.

All required monitoring shall be performed on a storm event that results in an actual discharge from your site ("measurable storm event") that follows the preceding measurable storm event by at least 72 hours (3 days). The 72-hour (3-day) storm interval does not apply if you are able to document that less than a 72-hour (3-day) interval is representative for local storm events during the sampling period. In the case of snowmelt, the monitoring shall be performed at a time when a measurable discharge occurs at your site.

For each monitoring event, except snowmelt monitoring, you shall identify the date and duration (in hours) of the rainfall event, rainfall total (in inches) for that rainfall event, and time (in days) since the previous measurable storm event. For snowmelt monitoring, you shall identify the date of the sampling event.

6.1.4 Sample Type.

You shall take a minimum of one grab sample from a discharge resulting from a measurable storm event as described in Part 6.1.3. Samples shall be collected within the first 30 minutes of a measurable storm event. If it is not possible to collect the sample within the first 30 minutes of a measurable storm event, the sample shall be collected as soon as practicable after the first 30 minutes and documentation shall be kept with the SWPPP explaining why it was not possible to take samples within the first 30 minutes. In the case of snowmelt, samples shall be taken during a period with a measurable discharge.

6.1.5 Adverse Weather Conditions.

When adverse weather conditions as described in Part 4.2.3 prevent the collection of samples according to the relevant monitoring schedule, you shall take a substitute sample during the next qualifying storm event. You shall report any failure to monitor as specified in Part 7.1 indicating the basis for not sampling during the usual reporting period.

6.1.6 (Reserved)

6.1.7 Monitoring Periods.

Monitoring requirements in this permit begin on your date of discharge authorization. Quarterly monitoring periods are as follows:

- January 1 – March 31;
- April 1 – June 30;
- July 1 – September 30; and
- October 1 – December 31

6.1.8 Monitoring for Allowable Non-Storm Water Discharges

You are only required to monitor allowable non-storm water discharges (as delineated in Part 1.1.3) when they are commingled with storm water discharges associated with industrial activity.

6.2 Required Monitoring.

This permit includes three types of required analytical monitoring, one or more of which may apply to your discharge:

- Benchmark monitoring (see Part 6.2.1)
- Annual effluent limitations guidelines monitoring (see Part 6.2.2); and
- Other monitoring as required by Ohio EPA (see Part 6.2.5).

When more than one type of monitoring for the same parameter at the same outfall applies (e.g., total suspended solids once per year for an effluent limit and for a selected quarterly benchmark

monitoring event at a given outfall), you may use a single sample to satisfy both monitoring requirements.

All required monitoring shall be conducted in accordance with the procedures described in Appendix B, Subsection 10.D.

6.2.1 Benchmark Monitoring.

This permit stipulates pollutant benchmark concentrations that are applicable to certain sectors/subsectors. **The benchmark concentrations are not effluent limitations; a benchmark exceedance, therefore, is not a permit violation**. Benchmark monitoring data are for your use to determine the overall effectiveness of your control measures and to assist you in knowing when additional corrective action(s) may be necessary to comply with the control measures/best management practices (BMPs) in Part 2.

At your discretion, more than four samples may be taken during separate runoff events and used to determine the average benchmark parameter concentration for facility discharges.

6.2.1.1 Applicability of Benchmark Monitoring. You shall monitor for any benchmark parameters specified for the industrial sector(s), both primary industrial activity and any co-located industrial activities, applicable to your discharge. Your industry-specific benchmark concentrations are listed in the sector-specific sections of Part 8. If your facility is in one of the industrial sectors subject to benchmark concentrations that are hardness-dependent, you are required to submit to Ohio EPA with your first benchmark report a hardness value, established consistent with the procedures in Appendix J, which is representative of your receiving water.

Samples shall be analyzed consistent with 40 CFR Part 136 analytical methods and using test procedures with quantitation limits at or below benchmark values for all benchmark parameters for which you are required to sample.

6.2.1.2 Benchmark Monitoring Schedule. Benchmark monitoring shall commence no earlier than the effective date of this permit. During the first 12 quarterly monitoring periods of your permit coverage, you shall select a total of 4 quarterly monitoring periods (as identified in Part 6.1.7) and perform benchmark monitoring. Over this 3-year period, one benchmark sampling event shall be taken during each of the quarterly monitoring periods unless your facility is always inactive and unstaffed for a particular quarterly monitoring period. After collection of quarterly samples, you shall average your 4 monitoring values and compare to the benchmark concentration.

Based on the expiration date of this permit, if the effective date of your coverage under this permit occurs on a date which does not offer 12 quarterly monitoring periods, you shall complete benchmark monitoring requirements to the extent of remaining quarterly monitoring periods available before this permit expires. After collection of quarterly samples associated with the remaining quarterly monitoring periods, you shall average your monitoring values and compare to the benchmark concentration.

Data exceeding benchmarks: Based on the average of your monitoring results, if the monitoring values for any parameter exceeds the benchmark, you shall perform the following:

- In accordance with Part 3.2, review the selection, design, installation, and implementation of your control measures to determine if modifications are necessary to meet the Part 2 control measures/best management practices (BMPs) of this permit; **or**

- Make a determination that no further pollutant reductions are technologically available and economically practicable and achievable in light of best industry practice to meet the control measures/best management practices (BMPs) in Part 2 of this permit. You shall also document your rationale for concluding that no further pollutant reductions are achievable, and retain all records related to this documentation with your SWPPP. You shall also notify Ohio EPA of this determination in your next benchmark monitoring report.

Ideally your storm water samples will contain only runoff from your site. However, storm water from a neighboring facility can run-on and comingle with your regulated storm water discharge, possibly adding contaminants not found at your facility. The SWPPP site description shall document the locations and sources of any run-on. If you feel your discharge is exceeding a benchmark value due to, run-on from neighboring properties, you may collect and analyze samples of the run-on. Determined contaminant concentrations of run-on from neighboring properties may be deducted from your storm water discharge when determining whether a benchmark has been exceeded. This information shall be documented within eDMR's comment section. All sample data and findings shall be maintained with your SWPPP.

If it is determined that a water quality standard is less restrictive than this permit's benchmark value, you may use the less restrictive value for benchmark monitoring purposes.

In accordance with Part 2, determined pollutant concentrations from your facility's structures (roofs, walls, fencing, etc.) can be considered to determine if it is technologically available and economically practical and achievable in light of best industry practice to implement additional control measures or not when a benchmark has been exceeded.

In accordance with Part 3.2, you shall review your control measures and perform any required corrective action immediately or document why no corrective action is required.

***Natural background pollutant levels*:** If you determine that exceedance of the benchmark is attributable solely to the presence of that pollutant in the natural background, you are not required to perform corrective action provided that:

- The concentration of your benchmark monitoring result is less than or equal to the concentration of that pollutant in the natural background;
- You document and maintain with your SWPPP, as required in Part 5.4, your supporting rationale for concluding that benchmark exceedances are in fact attributable solely to natural background pollutant levels. You shall include in your supporting rationale any data previously collected by you or others (including literature studies) that describe the levels of natural background pollutants in your storm water discharge; and

Natural background pollutants include those substances that are naturally occurring in soils or groundwater. Natural background pollutants do not include legacy pollutants from earlier activity on your site, or pollutants in run-on from neighboring sources which are not naturally occurring.

6.2.1.3 Exception for Inactive and Unstaffed Sites. The requirement for benchmark monitoring does not apply at a facility that is inactive and unstaffed, as long as there are no industrial materials or activities exposed to storm water. To invoke this exception, you shall do the following:

- Maintain a statement onsite with your SWPPP stating that the site is inactive and unstaffed, and that there are no industrial materials or activities exposed to storm water in accordance with the substantive requirements in 40 CFR 122.26(g) and sign and certify the statement in accordance with Appendix B, Subsection 11; and
- If circumstances change and industrial materials or activities become exposed to storm water or your facility becomes active and/or staffed, this exception no longer applies and you shall immediately begin complying with the applicable benchmark monitoring requirements under Part 6.2. You shall indicate in your first benchmark monitoring report that your facility has materials or activities exposed to storm water or has become active and/or staffed.
- If you are not qualified for this exception at the time you are authorized under this permit, but during the permit term you become qualified because your facility is inactive and unstaffed, and there are no industrial materials or activities that are exposed to storm water, then you shall notify Ohio EPA of this change in your next benchmark monitoring report. You may discontinue benchmark monitoring once you have notified Ohio EPA, and prepared and signed the certification statement described above concerning your facility's qualification for this special exception.

Note: This exception has different requirements for Sectors D, E and J (see Part 8).

6.2.2 Effluent Limitations Monitoring.

6.2.2.1 Monitoring Based on Effluent Limitations Guidelines. Table 6-1 identifies the storm water discharges subject to effluent limitation guidelines that are authorized for coverage under this permit. Beginning on your date of discharge authorization, you shall monitor once per year at each outfall containing the discharges identified in Table 6-1 for the parameters specified in the sector-specific section of Part 8.

Table 6-1. Required Monitoring for Effluent Limits Based on Effluent Limitations Guidelines

Regulated Activity	**Effluent Limit**	**Monitoring Frequency**	**Sample Type**
Discharges resulting from spray down or intentional wetting of logs at wet deck storage areas	See Part 8.A.7	1/year	Grab
Runoff from asphalt emulsion facilities	See Part 8.D.4	1/year	Grab
Runoff from material storage piles at cement manufacturing facilities	See Part 8.E.5	1/year	Grab
Mine dewatering discharges at crushed stone, construction sand and gravel, or industrial sand mining facilities	See Part 8.J.9	1/year	Grab
Runoff from coal storage piles at steam electric generating facilities	See Part 8.O.8	1/year	Grab

6.2.2.2 Substantially Identical Outfalls. You shall monitor each outfall discharging runoff from any regulated activity identified in Table 6-1. The substantially identical outfall monitoring provisions are not available for numeric effluent limits monitoring.

6.2.3 (Reserved)

6.2.4 (Reserved)

6.2.5 Additional Monitoring Required by Ohio EPA.

Ohio EPA may notify you of additional discharge monitoring requirements. Any such notice will briefly state the reasons for the monitoring, locations, and parameters to be monitored, frequency and period of monitoring, sample types, and reporting requirements.

6.3 Follow-up Actions if Discharge Exceeds Numeric Effluent Limit.

You shall conduct follow-up monitoring within 30 calendar days (or during the next qualifying runoff event, should none occur within 30 days) of implementing corrective action(s) taken pursuant to Part 3 in response to an exceedance of a numeric effluent limit contained in this permit. Monitoring shall be performed for any pollutant(s) that exceeds the effluent limit. If this follow-up monitoring exceeds the applicable effluent limitation, you shall comply with both Parts 6.3.1 and 6.3.2.

6.3.1 Submit an Exceedance Report.

You shall submit an Exceedance Report consistent with Part 7.3.

6.3.2 Continue to Monitor.

You shall continue to monitor, at least quarterly, until your discharge is in compliance with the effluent limit or until Ohio EPA waives the requirement for additional monitoring.

7. Reporting and Recordkeeping

7.1 Reporting Monitoring Data to Ohio EPA.

All monitoring data collected pursuant to Parts 6.2 and 6.3 shall be submitted to Ohio EPA using Ohio EPA's online electronic discharge monitoring report (eDMR) system (https://ebiz.epa.ohio.gov/login.jsp) no later than 30 days (email date or postmark date) after you have received your complete laboratory results for all monitored outfalls. If you cannot access eDMR, paper reporting forms shall be submitted by the same deadline to the appropriate address identified in Part 7.6.1. For additional information, visit the following Ohio EPA website address: http://epa.ohio.gov/dsw/edmr/eDMR.aspx.

7.2 Annual Report

You shall complete an annual report using the Annual Reporting Form (Appendix I of this permit) provided by Ohio EPA. You are not required to submit your annual report to Ohio EPA unless specifically requested. The timeframe to complete the report is at the discretion of the permittee but the same schedule to complete shall be maintained throughout this permit term. You shall keep the completed annual reports with your SWPPP.

7.3 Exceedance Report for Numeric Effluent Limits